

Appl. No. 09/590,586

Applicant's Interview Summary

Reply to Examiner's Interview Summary mailed on 8/11/03

Attorney Docket No.: P53569US01NJ

App. Ser. No.:	09/590,586
Filing Date:	June 8, 2000
Inventor:	Holmes, M.
Title:	Restraining Gasket for Mechanical Joints of Pipes
Responsive to:	Examiner's Interview Summary of 08/11/2003
Examiner:	Burch, M.
Art Unit:	3683

8/20/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

August 5, 2003 Interview  
Serial Number 09/590,586

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS:

The above identified applicant respectfully requests the Commissioner of Patents enter this Interview Summary into the record, in connection with the Examiner's Interview Summary dated August 11, 2003.

*Application Number:* 09/590,586  
*Applicant:* William W. Holmes, IV  
*Examiner:* Melody Burch  
*Interview Date:* August 5, 2003  
*Interview Type:* Telephone  
*Interview Attendees:* Melody Burch, Examiner, and  
Nathan W. Johnson, the attorney of record for Applicant  
*Interview Exhibits:* None; reference to drawings of record  
*Claims Discussed:* Claim 1, Claim 13, Claim 16  
*Prior Art Discussed:* Miller and Harper, as cited in the Office Action dated June 9, 2003  
*Resolution:* Applicant indicated it would make revisions to the drawing to clarify the meaning of the "lip" being "within" the bell.

**Summary Of Interview:**

Applicant cordially thanks the examiner for the interview conducted on August 5, 2003. Applicant sought interview based on the Examiner's interpretation of the term "within", in the context of the lip being within the bell, as meaning "within the

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extrapolated boundaries of the bell." Applicant pointed to Figure 7 as showing the lip within the bell, and proposed to revise Figure 4 to show the gland in a more advanced stage of assembly, wherein the lip shows within the actual boundaries of the bell, not merely the extrapolated boundaries of the bell. Examiner Burch and Mr. Johnson discussed that the Miller and Harper references are configured in a manner that they cannot be interpreted as having a lip capable of insertion within the bell. The Examiner did not finally conclude allowability, but did indicate that the proposed clarification appeared to overcome the Miller and Harper references.

**Additional Comments:**

Prior to receipt of the Examiner's Interview Summary, on August 6, 2003 Applicant submitted a response to the Office Action dated June 9, 2003. That response included the action proposed by the Applicant in the Interview. The response also included a section entitled "Acknowledgment of Interview."

**Fees:**

This paper is timely and no fees or extensions are required.

The Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a timely Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
BRADLEY ARANT ROSE & WHITE LLP

Nathan W. Johnson  
Reg. No. 44173  
205-521-8369

Date

August 15-2003